



# CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

8 AUGUST 2022

## (U) CALIFORNIA

### (U) San Francisco – Alleged Russian Cryptocurrency Money Launderer Extradited to US

(U) The alleged operator of the illicit cryptocurrency exchange BTC-e was extradited yesterday from Greece to the United States, to face charges in the Northern District of California. "After more than five-years of litigation, Russian national Alexander Vinnik was extradited to the United States yesterday to be held accountable for operating BTC-e, a criminal cryptocurrency exchange, which laundered more than \$4 billion of criminal proceeds," said Assistant Attorney General Kenneth A. Polite, Jr. of the Justice Department's Criminal Division. According to the indictment, Vinnik and his co-conspirators allegedly owned, operated, and administrated BTC-e, a significant cybercrime and online money laundering entity that allowed its users to trade in bitcoin with high levels of anonymity and developed a customer base heavily reliant on criminal activity.

SOURCE: 5 August 2022, [US DoJ](#)

## (U) NATIONAL

### (U) Colorado – Deputy Killed in the Line of Duty, Suspect Sought

(U) Colorado Springs – A Colorado sheriff's department confirmed they are searching for a suspect after one of their deputies was shot and killed in the line of duty. Deputy Andrew Peery from the El Paso County Sheriff's Office responded to a shooting when a suspect opened fire. He was shot and later died of his injuries. The department said they are "actively looking" for John Paz, as a suspect in the shooting.

SOURCE: 7 August 2022, [Fox News](#)

### (U) New Mexico – Police Investigating Killings of Four Muslim Men

(U) Albuquerque – Authorities are investigating whether the killings of four Muslim men over the last nine months are connected. Albuquerque police said yesterday that they need help in finding a vehicle believed connected to the deaths. Albuquerque police said they released photos of the vehicle suspected of being used in the four homicides, hoping people could help identify the car. Police still are trying to determine if there are any connections among the killings. A Muslim man was killed Friday night in Albuquerque and ambush shootings killed three Muslim men over the nine-month time span. The common elements in all the victims are their race and religion, deputy police commander Kyle Hartsock said.

SOURCE: 7 August 2022, [Associated Press](#)

### (U) Ohio – Nine Shot Outside of Bar

(U) Cincinnati – At least nine people were wounded, none critically, in a shooting outside of a Cincinnati bar early Sunday, police said. The shooting took place shortly after 1:30 a.m. outside Mr. Pitiful's bar in the city's Over-the-Rhine district, a popular nightlife area. Most of the victims suffered wounds to their lower halves, Lieutenant Colonel Mike John of the Cincinnati police told reporters. A police officer fired one round at a suspect who fled the scene, but it was unclear if that person was hit. More shots were fired after that suspect fled, so police believe at least two people were shooting, he said.

SOURCE: 8 August 2022, [10 WBNS](#)

## UNCLASSIFIED

### **(U) Texas – Man Sentenced to 25-years After Slashing Attack on Asian Family**

(U) Midland – A Texas man who attacked an Asian family he believed to be "Chinese and therefore responsible for the COVID-19 pandemic," was sentenced last week to 25-years in prison on hate crime charges, the Department of Justice announced. Jose Gomez III, 21, of Midland Texas had pleaded guilty to three counts of committing a hate crime in February in connection with slashing a customer, their 6-year-old child, and a Sam's Club employee on 14 March 2020. In the attack, Gomez had entered the store behind an Asian family with young children. He followed them in the store for several minutes claiming he perceived them to be a "threat" as they were "from the country who started spreading that disease around," the Justice Department said in a release. Gomez is still facing pending state charges for three counts of attempted capital murder and one count of aggravated assault.

SOURCE: 5 August 2022, [NBC News](#)

### **(U) INTERNATIONAL**

#### **(U) Democratic Republic of Congo – 20 Killed in Attack on Villages**

(U) Beni – Suspected Islamist militants killed approximately 20 people in attacks on two villages in eastern Congo over the weekend, the army and a local human rights group said yesterday. Fighters believed to be from the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) killed residents and burned down houses in Kandoyi and Bandiboli villages in Ituri province on Friday and Saturday, the coordinator of the local group Convention for the Respect of Human Rights said. The Congolese army spokesperson in Ituri, Jules Ngongo, confirmed about 20 deaths, and said Congolese forces were in pursuit of the assailants.

SOURCE: 7 August 2022, [Reuters](#)

#### **(U) Israel – Israeli Airstrikes Kill Eight, Including Senior Militant**

(U) Jerusalem – Israel launched a wave of airstrikes in Gaza on Friday, killing at least eight people, including a senior militant, and wounding another 40, according to Palestinian officials. Israel said it was targeting the Islamic Jihad militant group in response to an "imminent threat" following the arrest of a senior militant in the occupied West Bank earlier this week. The Palestinian Health Ministry said eight people were killed, and at least 44 were wounded. Islamic Jihad said Taiseer al-Jabari, its commander for northern Gaza, was among those killed. He had succeeded another militant killed in an airstrike in 2019.

SOURCE: 5 August 2022, [CBS News](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-636-2900.**

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